

REMARKS

Claims 51-80 are now pending in this application. The previously pending claims (claims 31-50) have been canceled. The subject matter of the new claims is fully supported in the Specification. In particular, the new claims correspond to original claims 1-30. As no new matter has been added by the amendments and introduction of new claims, Applicants respectfully request entry of these amendments at this time.

THE REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 31-36 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over U.S. Patent No. 6,129,881 to Puniello in view of U.S. Patent No. 2,361,348 to Dickson *et al.* for the reasons provided on pages 2-4 of the Office Action. In addition, the Examiner rejected claims 37-42 under § 103(a) as obvious over Puniello in view of Dickson as set forth on pages 4-56 of the Office Action.

The claims subject to the above-referenced rejections are no longer pending. As such, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections based on Puniello and Dickson are moot.

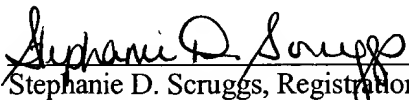
CONCLUSION

All claims are believed to be in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that the present amendments and remarks still do not resolve all of the issues regarding patentability of the pending claims, Applicants invite the Examiner to contact the undersigned attorneys to discuss any remaining issues.

A Petition for Extension of Time is submitted herewith to extend the time for response three months to and including March 8, 2005. No other fees are believed to be due at this time. Should any fee be required, however, please charge such fee to Swidler Berlin LLP Deposit Account No. 195127, Order No. 20002.0015.

Respectfully submitted,
SWIDLER BERLIN LLP

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By: 
Stephanie D. Scruggs, Registration No. 54,432
SWIDLER BERLIN LLP
3000 K Street, NW, Suite 300
Washington, D.C. 20007
(202) 424-7755 Telephone
(202) 295-8478 Facsimile